

19 OCT 2012



# AMAA news

THE ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.  
140 FOREST AVENUE, PARAMUS, NEW JERSEY 07652

Editor Dr. G. H. Chopourian

VOLUME XII NO. 6

November/December, 1978

This publication combines the former "A.M.A.A. Newsletter" and the "Armenian/American Outlook"

THE GATEWAY  
TO A NEW LIFE



18.87.84



The Antranig Dancers performing for the  
Ellis Island celebrants.

In all the world, there are three landmarks of sacred meaning for all Armenian-Americans. Each is a unique symbol of our faith, our heritage, and our freedom.

As Christians, we revere the redemptive hill of Calvary, as Armenians, the eternal majesty of Ararat, and as Americans the austere eloquence of Ellis Island.

Until 1954, in its course of sixty-two years, this dark-some dot in New York harbor was the Gateway to the New World for 16 million immigrants. But in their anxious eyes, Ellis Island might well have been a Treasure Island of glittering gold. In reality, it was a haven for the human flotsam of an inhuman world.

Here, for the "tired, the poor, the huddled masses yearning to be free," began a miracle of gestation that would ultimately deliver joyful masses of new-born Americans. Among them were the proud Armenians, survivors of the barbarous genocide of 1915.

Today there are perhaps 500,000 citizens of Armenian ancestry in the United States. And yet, throughout the glorious history of this Land of the Free, no persons of proud ancestry, no heir of long generations, no nationality of millions can claim a contribution of more substance nor a greater love for America than these 500,000.

One must realize that for the Armenian-American, Ellis Island was more than a Gateway to the New World. It was, and is, the Gateway to a New Life.

## SIXTY YEARS OF AMAA

By Norair N. Sarian, M.D.



Dr. Norair Sarian

The year was 301 A.D. As a nation, we were called out of the darkness of paganism into the marvelous light of the gospel of Jesus Christ. We were called out to be His own, a holy nation. Since then many significant events helped our small nation to stem the tide of invasions and persecutions. One such event was the start of the Armenian Evangelical movement in the first half of the 19th century. Another was the birth of the Armenian Missionary Association of America in 1918.

The A.M.A.A. was organized by a few visionaries from a handful of Armenian Evangelical churches in the Eastern U.S.A. These churches were founded by those who had escaped the persecutions of the latter part of the 19th century and the first genocide attempt of the 20th century.

The purpose of the newly organized A.M.A.A. was to extend a helping hand as an expression of the love of Christ to the suffering Armenians, especially in the Middle East.

The financial help, even though relatively very small compared to some of the missionary societies, had a far greater impact because of the keenness of the feeling the Association had for the suffering Armenian brethren. This help grew in size and in its scope very rapidly. It was instrumental in establishing Armenian Evangelical schools related to the newly established churches in the diaspora; beginning with kindergarten, grammer schools to high schools, finally reaching its culmination in the establishment of Haigazian College in Beirut. Many of us are beneficiaries of these learning centers.

The helping hand of A.M.A.A. was strengthened as the Armenian Evangelical churches increased in size and in number after 1922. The orphans and widows and youngsters helped by A.M.A.A., began to strengthen the hands of A.M.A.A. in the thirties, forties and fifties. The effectiveness of A.M.A.A. has been its faithfulness as required of a steward. Apostle Paul, in I Cor. 4:1,2 speaks of the faithfulness of stewardship. God wants us to be faithful stewards, once He has elevated us to such a position of trust. Our faithfulness will be demonstrated by the amount of interest and time, talent and money we put at the feet of our Lord for His service. The reward will be the joy of giving and serving Him here and now, and "well done, thou good and faithful servant" in eternity.

I firmly believe that the words of Apostle Peter in the year 301, "You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light! Once you were no people but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy but now you have received mercy!" apply to us Armenians who were called by God as a nation out of darkness into His marvelous light to declare His wonderful deeds. What a blessed calling! What a position of high trust!

Our forefathers have given the greatest measure of their devotion to God by remaining faithful unto death and have passed the Light on through all generations in our stormy history down to us. We are entrusted with God's gift and grace. I see great potentials in the Armenian Evangelical generation of our times. We could and we should do our utmost to transform these potentials in this generation into a dynamic faith for the glory of God and to the benefit of the generations to come.

If you and I, who are called to be His stewards, do not give ourselves and of our substance to our churches, how can the Gospel be preached from the pulpits? If we do not give and support the A.M.A.A., the missionary arm of the Armenian Evangelical Union, how can the word of God be taught in the churches and schools among the Armenians in the diaspora?

In these days of upheaval in the Middle East and throughout the world, when faithlessness leads to hopelessness and hopelessness to existential despair and desperate acts of violence, the A.M.A.A. has the supreme calling and the unique opportunity of demonstrating God's love and mercy through Christ who, in us is the hope of glory, another mystery. (Col. 1:27)

## LEBANON ARMENIANS IN DISASTER

News coming out of Beirut since October, soon after the Syrian shelling had stopped, is extremely bad. Telephone conversations with more than half a dozen reliable sources indicate the serious devastation that has touched Armenian quarters of Eshrefieh, Nor Hadjin, Nor Marash, Amanos, Trad and other areas. Estimates indicate that 50% of Armenian homes have been badly damaged leaving a whole stream of refugees. Thousands have lost home and business, and the United Nations is calling for supplies for 190,000 families (450,000 persons). Since Armenians constitute 1/10th of the Lebanese population, and in view of the fact that the Armenian quarters were hit mostly, there must be close to 20,000 Armenian families in dire distress.

Almost all the school buildings (more than 12) have received rockets and bombs and will require extensive repairs if they are to be used, and almost all the churches have been hit also. The provisions that Armenian-Americans will be required to make will be in the areas of relief, teacher salary support, school budget deficit support and repairs, to enable life to go on. The projection of the AMAA will require \$20,000 a month for six months for emergency relief and \$500,000 for the other needs listed above. We call upon our brothers here to be self-giving to help out. (For details of the damages see "Lebanon Update" on page 3)

On this sixtieth anniversary, the AMAA more than ever needs the moral, spiritual and financial support of each one of us. We must re-dedicate ourselves and carry on the most commendable work started sixty years ago by a handful but faithful and dedicated servants and stewards of God, so that the light of the Gospel may shine ever brighter among the Armenians and on the mission fields all over the world. In the words of Oliver Wendell Holmes, "To reach the port of heaven we must sail, sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it—but we must sail, not drift or lie at anchor." Lives are too precious and the time too short.

Pray with us that as we sail together on board the ship of A.M.A.A., His hand may always be on the helm.

## LEBANON UPDATE

For a matter of 10 days Armenians in Armenian quarters of East Beirut lived in "hell," and following the cease-fire felt and behaved as though all was lost. In reality most were dazed. Damages reported are extremely high. Some of the troubles may be summed up as follows which in reality have been confirmed by six separate sources, two of which are the President and Dean of Haigazian, Dr. John J. Markarian and Manuel Jinbashian respectively. Their recommendation is to provide for resources that surpass one half million dollars.

More than 600 persons lived in the basement shelter of a church-school complex for more than two weeks. One daily loaf of Arabic (Peda) bread was distributed per 2-3. Forty persons in this group experienced nervous breakdowns. Hysteria is rampant and tranquilizers are one of the most needed medications.

The Central Committee of the Armenian Evangelical Union reports 190 families have lost homes and businesses completely. The members constitute 800 and need \$25 per month for the next six months just for mere survival. This amounts to \$20,000 a month or \$120,000 just to exist.

The residents of the Old Age Home have been moved to the Institute of Blind and Deaf campus by Mr. Ziegler.

### DAMAGES TO THE FOLLOWING BUILDINGS ARE REPORTED:

The Philobosian House complex (apartment and stores) in Nor Hadjin is in ruins;

The Eshrefieh School and Church were hit by rockets—the school by four rockets and the Church by one;

The Peter & Elizabeth Torosian School in Dora has had a similar fate as Eshrefieh.

Hayashen and Trad School buildings have been oc-

cupied by the Chamounite militias.

Gertmenian School in Nor Hadjin has been hit by eight bombs.

Shamlian-Tatigian School in Nor Marash has been badly hit and so has been the Church on the same campus.

The Amanos Church building has been hit and damaged.

Nor Marash Armenian Evangelical Dispensary and the kindergarten next door destroyed and ruined.

Hadjin and Khalil Bedaoui completely ruined.

Bourj Hammoud - Business district 80% ruined. Residential area heavily damaged by bombs with 50% of houses destroyed.

The Armenian wounded in Bourj Hammoud and Eshrefieh number about 600.

Armenian dead are estimated at about 60, so we are speaking about 660 deaths and casualties. What Mr. Missak Jerejian, custodian of the AMAA-Philibosian properties in Nor Hadjin reports, is a sample of the tragic events and conditions:

"During the second phase of the events, September - October, everything worsened. Destructions everywhere, especially on the Eastern side of the city and the summer resorts. There was nothing that was spared, neither human life, houses, nor commercial and industrial centers. In those 10 days Beirut became hell — a destruction that was rarely seen in the history of mankind. Nobody knew who died, wounded and what happened to the city. It was after the decision of the curfew by the two Presidents of Lebanon and Syria in Damascus on the 7th of October that the people came out of the shelters to see the reality. The damages are enormous, too, in the Armenian quarters of Hadjin, Khalil Bedaoui and Bourj-Hammoud.

"It is very sad for me to say that our loss is immense. Our Philibosian building is destroyed altogether. It is shelled and burnt. The building has come down like a lump of earth, with everything in it, but they say that there is no human

## The Inspirational Corner

### CHRISTIANITY WITHOUT TEARS

*"No, Ornan, no, I will not take for the Lord what is yours, nor offer offerings which cost me nothing" (I Chronicles 21:24).*

King David wanted to build an altar for the Lord. He wanted the best possible for it. It was a hilltop in Jerusalem. It belonged to a non-Jew, named Ornan. This "odar" said, "I will be glad to give it to you free. In addition, I will give you some oxen and wood for sacrifice." David refused. He said, "I will pay the full price." He paid approximately \$6,000 for the site where Solomon built the first Jewish Temple.

I heard of a man who boasted, "I have not yet put a dime in a parking meter. I drive around until I find a parking meter with unexpired time and then I park." That set me to thinking.

It may be a smart thing to park on space paid by someone else. I think there are some people in the church who do exactly the same thing. They receive all kinds of services and blessings from the church of Jesus Christ for which someone else has paid the full price.

We are heirs of a faith that has cost us nothing, or almost nothing. Most of us have risked neither our work, nor property, nor money, nor lives. We sing, "Faith of our fathers, holy faith." Our fathers paid for it not only in dollars and cents, but also with their blood, sweat and tears. Even today, some of our people in some Middle East and African countries are paying heavily.

A faith that costs nothing is worth nothing. At the heart of Christian faith

is the cross. Salvation is free but it cost God the life of His Son.

Aldus Huxley, in his book, THE BRAVE NEW WORLD, describes the New Brave World as a place where all sufferings are eliminated by modern science. The hero says, "What I offer you is a Christianity Without Tears."

Christianity without tears is like a man without blood. It costs to enrich one's blood. It costs to be a true disciple of Christ. And just as "enriched" blood gives physical joy, so true discipleship brings joy and happiness.

Don't cry tears.

But, don't expect to get away with non-participation either.

Adapted from the Pilgrim's Progress Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church

loss, the tenants having fled beforehand. As to the Gertmenian buildings and shops, the school has received 4-5 rockets, the 3rd floor of the apartment building is destroyed, and most of the shops (stores) are damaged more or less."

#### IMMEDIATE NEEDS:

—\$20,000 a month for the next six months to keep people fed and clothed. We have been able to send \$10,000 and need contributions so we can continue monthly financial provisions.

—\$200,000 to meet the deficits of the schools. We are not thinking of any provision for repairs but just to make sure the teachers are around to provide children with an education even if it is under an 'on again off again' situation.

—Medication — Through the courtesy of the Stephen Philibosian Foundation contributions of 1,000 lbs. of medication were air-freighted to Beirut.

#### ANSWERS TO SOME QUESTIONS

- Q. Can we send some financial help to friends and relatives?
- A. Yes, through the sources of the AMAA, if name, accurate address and telephone are provided.
- Q. Can we send letters?
- A. The AMAA will assist in such an effort if it can be shown it is an emergency.
- Q. How can I Help?
- A. —Pray.
- Make generous donations to enable the AMAA to send \$20,000 a month.
- Make sizeable donations to underwrite the efforts of schools to keep teachers working and students studying whenever school has been possible to open.
- Be a missionary — soften the hearts of people to be generous.

Let us be taught by Paul's words on the mystery of the parts of the body since a nation is like a body. When one part of the body suffers, all suffer:

"If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But not hath God set the members every one of them in the body,

as it hath pleased him." "But now are they many members, yet but one body? And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you." "And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." (Selections: I Cor. 12)

' Let us join together to heal the "Armenian" body now existing precariously in Lebanon. Our top leaders, about ten of them, are risking their lives to heal the wounds. What will you do? Please let God speak to you and let your contribution encourage to continue their heroic service.



## ELLIS ISLAND REMEMBERED

September 23, 1978, known as the Ellis Island Remembered day, will never be stamped out of the minds and eyes of 600 Armenians who revisited the Island not as immigrants this time but as full-fledged, successful Armenian Americans. Standing in New York harbor on that beautiful day, people made an imaginary journey back to the land of their ancestors, back to 3,000 years of civilization and culture. They joyfully shared with the Governor of New York State and the Mayor of the great City of New York their heritage, their hopes and their aspirations. On September 23 the mission was accomplished. One Ellis Island Park service man said, "What we need are days like this." Of course, he was referring to a beautiful and sunny day, with 'God's air conditioning' at work. People listened to wonderful speeches, watched colorful folk dances of the Antranig Dance Group, and got excited looking at the fire boats saluting the crowd lined up against the walls. All in all, it was a wonderful day with not one critical comment as regards the planning and meaning of the day.

The Ellis Island Remembered celebration was initiated by Set Charles Momjian, the newly appointed U.S. Representative to the United Nations with ambassadorial rank and National Chairman of this unique event which was sponsored by the Armenian Missionary Association of America. The purpose of this event, the first of its kind, was to salute America and say, 'Thank You' by beautifying through landscaping Ellis Island, the neglected doorway of sixteen million Americans, among whom were tens of thousands of Armenians.

The landscaping will be done in the form of planting trees, hedges and flower beds in a section of the Island, which will be called, "Ellis Island Remembered by Armenians." There were over fifty sponsors who contributed \$1,000 each towards the landscaping in loving memory of parents or relatives. A plaque bearing the names of those memorialized will be placed conspicuously at some convenient spot on the Island. The sponsoring of trees is still open and anyone who would want to memorialize a loved one who had entered the United States through

*Fireboats in thrilling salute to Ellis Islanders*



*Some of the members of the AMAA Ellis Island Remembered Welcome Committee*



*Mr. Alex Manoogian, Gov. Hugh Carey, Ambassador Set Momjian and Mr. Archie Cherkezian as they alight on Ellis Island*



*Philanthropist Alex Manoogian and Mr. George Philibosian, Moderator of AEUNA, planting mums, as Ambassador Set Momjian, Dr. G.H. Choupourian, Exec. Dir. of AMAA and Mr. Archie Cherkezian, President of the AMAA look on approvingly*





*Descendant of Gazarian & Shegoian Families pointing to picture of his family — immigrants who entered America by way of Ellis Island.*

Ellis Island may do so by sending their contributions to the AMAA office in the next eight or nine months when the plaque will be completed for installation. Other donations have been received towards the landscaping. The names of these donors have been recorded in a Memorial Book, copy of which will be on display in Ellis Island, and another copy will be kept at AMAA Headquarters on 140 Forest Avenue in Paramus.

Cheerful members of the Welcome Committee greeted visitors as they came to the gangway at Battery Park, where they were given box lunches of choereg, olives, cheese, lavash, egg, the Armenian sujuk and basderma, raisins, walnuts, apricots and apples, all wrapped up in colorful bandanas reminiscent of bandanas worn by immigrant women. Most of these foods were donated by generous Armenian businessmen dealing with that specific item. Among those were: Haig Berberian, Bedrossian Brothers, and Edward Garry from California; Vay Najarian, Harry Toufayan, Harry Aslanian of the East Coast as well as Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Goomrigian who provided services and use of their refrigerated truck.

Visitors were given a symbolic passport and a commemorative book containing special remarks by several dignitaries including President Carter. Ferries every half hour brought the visitors to the Island where hour-long guided tours were conducted by special National Park interpreters or Tour Guides. Featured in the tour was a special exhibit of Armenian Immigrants' passports and period family photographs.

At exactly 1 p.m. a Coast Guard boat carrying the honored guests of the day arrived at the Island; they were Ambassador Momjian accompanied by New York's Governor Hugh Carey and Mayor Edward Koch, Mr. Alex Manoogian, International Life President of the AGBU; Mr. Edward Mardigian, President of AGBU of America; Mr. George Philibosian, AMAA International Chairman of the 60th Anniversary Campaign, and Mr. Archie Cherkezian, AMAA President. Other dignitaries on the dais were Mr. John Mirack, Mr. Jack Stark, Mr. Whalen, Mr. David Moffitt and Mr. Anthony Cucchiara.

Mr. Momjian opened the ceremonies by saying, "It looks like I'm always waiting for a boat." Reference was to the delay of Dr. G.H. Chopourian, Executive Director of the AMAA, who had missed the Coast Guard boat because he had to resolve problems of delay of deliveries. "But," continued Mr. Momjian, "we will wait for him because he has done more than all of us to make today a reality." Arriving to the applause of the cheering crowd, Dr. Chopourian commented, "I'm glad, however, I did not miss one boat — the boat from Southampton to New York on September 7, 1955."

Governor Carey expressed his admiration for our people and enthusiastically saluted Armenian-Americans participating in this unique cultural and ecological project. "Americans of Armenian heritage," he said, "have made considerable contributions to the economic, social and cultural growth of the Empire State and this great Nation; I am pleased to commend the dedication and imagination demonstrated by all involved in this noteworthy project." Announcing a special surprise, the Governor asked Mrs. Aznive Essepien, unaware of what was to take place, to step forward. Mr. Momjian announced, "Fifty-three years ago, Mrs. Essepien arrived here on Ellis Island. The surprise is that we received her naturalization papers just this past Wednesday in Albany and the Governor of the State of New York will personally present them to her here today." Governor Carey then proclaimed, "Here is our new citizen." This was an especially touching highlight of the day's events. Many in the audience were reminiscing back to the days when they first set foot on the Island, including one of the oldest attendees, 87 year old Eranoohi Manoogian who had come 55 years ago to this country and who made heroic efforts to be present on this occasion.

President Carter sent a message acknowledging the Armenians as the oldest people in the world, having struggled with great courage and tenacity to preserve their own identity and their own customs. He appreciated the deep religious beliefs of our people and had no doubt that no other people had suffered as much for their faith. His rousing great message was, "I feel very deeply that I should make sure that this is never forgotten, not only the tragedy of your history, but also the present contributions that you make and the bright future that you have."

Cecil Andrus, whose representative was present on the Island because he himself was prevented from coming due to last minute responsibilities, expressed his admiration that the Armenian Americans had taken a leadership role in begin-

ning restoration of Ellis Island, through which sixteen million immigrants from over 100 nations had passed into the mainstream of American life.

William Saroyan, invited but unable to attend the celebrations because he was in France on that day, sent a freshly written story for the occasion in which he recalled that first his father, a Presbyterian preacher (and private poet) arrived at Ellis Island in 1905, and after a period of 22 very difficult months, his mother, two sisters, a baby brother and other close relatives entered America through the gates of Ellis Island.

Other participants in the program were Sylvia Kutchukian who sang the Hayr Mer followed by two folk songs and the Antranig Dance Group who performed folk dances for half an hour. There was a large school band which played spirited American songs and tour guides who took a large number of guests through the gates of the huge Immigration Building. But the climax of the entire day was reached when Mr. Alex Manoogian stood up and spoke about his second visit to the Island after 58 years, the first visit having been at the time when he was 17 years old. He said, "Sometimes a trip to the past helps us see our future in its proper perspective. Today's gathering is such a trip to the past, where life in America began for most of us.

"When I first arrived on this small Island, some 58 years ago, I had mixed feelings, feelings of anxiety and hope, fear and freedom. Today, it is different. The fears and anxieties have dissipated and hopes of freedom and opportunity have become a reality. Fifty-eight years ago I came to this Island with two suitcases, \$50 in my pocket and a tag hanging from my neck. Never, in my wildest imagination, would I have expected to return to this Island accompanied by the Governor of this State of New York and the Mayor of this City of New York!

"Ellis Island has been the gateway for millions of immigrants who have chosen America to be their home. For them, this tiny Island has been the promise of an entire continent, the American continent. America could not and should not neglect Ellis Island. A sense of duty to our history and common heritage brings us here to this Island to beautify it and to preserve it as one of the most precious national shrines of America. We, as Armenians, feel a special responsibility to support the beautification efforts, which is our way of thanking America for what she has done for us. The only way Armenians know how to thank is by giving and building. Our entire history has been one of building temples, churches and monuments. And to this day, the remnants of those architectural monuments testify to the creative talents of our people.

"The invitation to undertake this noble task comes from the Armenian Missionary Association of America, which has many charitable and educational deeds to its credit during its 60 years of community service. This affair is under the leadership of a son of an immigrant and the American Ambassador to the United Nations, Mr. Set Momjian. Again, under Mr. Momjian's leadership the Armenians were the first and only community to stand up and say, 'Thank you America' during the Bicentennial celebrations by presenting a historical set of tapestries to the United States.

"My father fell in love with this country the day he set foot on the Island. He was not a drinker, but took a drink or two at all our family gatherings and made a special toast. I never saw him take a drink without that special toast which was three words in Armenian — Asdouaz Orne Amerigan. GOD BLESS AMERICA. Today I don't think I can find better or more meaningful and simple words to express my feelings about this country than — GOD BLESS AMERICA."

On behalf of Mr. Set Momjian and the Armenian Missionary Association of America, we wish to extend our gratitude to all the participants and particularly to all those who labored in self-giving ways to complete this mission.

This symbolic event will undoubtedly have positive influence upon and benefit for all Armenians in general. The proof of this fact came at the end of the day when a non-Armenian, and there were about 400 of them who took free rides to the Island on the ferry assigned to Ellis Island Remembered Day, came up to Dr. Chopourian and said, "This has been an unusual day for me and the two children with me. Today the children learned where Armenia is on the map; who Armenians are; what contributions they have made; that Armenians are nice people." Enquiry revealed that the American making the statement was Dr. Edmund H. Handwerger, an orthodontist. We are confident that he will relate this story proudly at many high level circles. *The Ellis Island Remembered Day had made its point.*



## ARTISTS HELPFUL TO THE AMAA



\*Lucina  
Mrs. Lucina Agbabian Hubbard was the featured soloist at the Teaneck Women's Club on November 12, 1978, Sunday, at 4 p.m. with accompanist Armen Guzelimian. The event was organized by the Knights & Daughters of Vartan with the benefit to go to Laverne College. Her lyric presentation received loud applause, a signal of appreciation. "She displayed a well-schooled voice, good-sized and evenly produced, and achieved unexpected warmth and sensitivity."

Miss Agbabian's rich lyric soprano voice has become familiar to concert goers during her many appearances with symphonic oratorio and chamber music associations, as well as in solo recitals of Art songs and folk songs employing a wide range of national styles, giving prominent exposure to Armenian composers in her recital programs, carefully selecting songs that convey the national, musical and poetic idiom from the middle ages to the most contemporary compositions. She is the on-screen narrator and singer in the film "Discovering the Music of the Balkans and the Middle East."

"Her program on Sunday night was fresh and unhackneyed, and was presented with an appealing directness, simple good humor and charm. A well trained musician with a true flexible voice, a pleasing stage presence and an ability to communicate with her hearers," Miss Agbabian surpassed herself on the East coast who is so well recognized on the West coast.

\*Both soprano soloists have pledged to cover all the 60th Anniversary Banquets in their respective U.S. regions, with each one exchanging once during the more than 15 presentations.



Lucy Janjigian  
"Exploration Through Imagination" was the theme of a stimulating art exhibit by Lucy Janjigian of Franklin Lakes, N.J., wife of AMAA Board member Edward Janjigian. The showing was at the Exhibit Hall of the First Armenian Church of Belmont, Mass., from Sept. 29 to Oct. 1, 1978. A year earlier Mrs. Janjigian exhibited in the AMAA-Armenian Presbyterian Church complex for the specific benefit of the AMAA.

Mrs. Janjigian, a semi abstract painter, explores nature and her own vivid imagination to produce bold creative images expressed freely in oils, acrylics, pastels and collage.

Exhibitions have included one woman shows at Abraham and Strauss Gallery, Wolff Gallery, Panella Real Estate, Franklin Lakes Presbyterian Church, and the Armenian Missionary Association of America annual convention banquet. In the latter exhibition a good number of works were sold, and a third of the income was donated to the AMAA, along with an oil painting entitled "AKH-TAMAR."

While participating in professional group shows, she was the recipient of several awards. Her work was also included in a group show at Bergen County Museum.

Mrs. Janjigian's paintings are included in many collections, both private and public. Art educators who have motivated the artist include Don Stacy of the New School, R. Hale and M. Glacier of the Art Students League. Several years were spent as a member of the Karsage Group under the direction of Victor D'Amico, research director of the Museum of Modern Art.

We wish even greater success to this successful artist.



\*Sylvia  
A strong AMAA delegation, in the persons of Ambassador Set Momjian, George and Alice Philibosian and Rev. and Mrs. G.H. Chopourian were present on Friday evening, September 8th when the AMAA presented Sylvia Kutchukian, a soprano much admired, in a concert of sacred music at the Loudonville Community Church. She was joined by Peter Letchford, playing piano and Allen organ; violinist Leo Mahigian and electric guitarists Chris Rouse and Joe Severino.

Peter Trump, Albany Times-Union's music critic said of her, "It was a joy to hear works of Beethoven and Mozart sung by a voice that can cut it. A real dramatic soprano that is still developing and sounds better every time we hear it. 'I will Sing New Songs' from Biblical Songs, Op. 99 of Dvorak, gave a lighter effect, as did Kosakoff's, 'My Beloved and I,' except in the upper register where she has great power and weight. This seems to equalize more when she sings with the organ than the piano.

"Most interesting were five Armenian hymns, all sung in Armenian. These pieces, with their Eastern flavor, brought out the native warmth and sheen of the voice. The slow movement of John Cole's hymn, sung in an Armenian translation, allowed great poise as it began unaccompanied, one deep note giving a glimpse of the riches waiting there to be tapped. In this plaintive lament, her liquid tone flowed like honey. A group of spirituals followed, culminating in 'Jesus Was a Man.'

"On the one hand, it would be a shame to tamper with the exquisite sweetness of this voice. On the other, what lies dormant promises such excitement it would be a crime not to unearth it. What will bring out the bottom can only improve the top and equalize the whole. There is the heart of the voice, and the audience loved it, joining enthusiastically in 'My Country, 'tis of Thee.'"

## AMAA BOARD MEMBER SET MOMJIAN NAMED U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS BY PRESIDENT CARTER



Ambassador Set Momjian

President Jimmy Carter appointed Set Momjian as one of the five United States representatives to the United Nations. The post, which carries full ambassadorial rank, is the highest appointive office ever given by a President of the United States to an American of Armenian descent, and it is the same post held in the past by former first lady Eleanor Roosevelt and by Sherley Temple Black.

The appointment also marks the first time a first generation American has been named to such a high ranking position at the United Nations.

An executive with the Ford Motor Company for the past 25 years, Momjian has long been active in community and ethnic affairs.

An early supporter of President Carter, he is well known for his successful efforts to make the Armenians a visible ethnic group at the White House. His contributions to the culture and achievements of the Armenian community of the United States are of major significance. A member of the board of Armenian Sisters' Academy of Philadelphia and of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, he also serves on the Columbia University Armenian Studies Advisory Council.

However, Momjian has not limited his participation in ethnic organizations and cultural affairs to his own ethnic group. He is a member of the board of the Balch Institute, the largest museum and study center in North America devoted to ethnic studies, and he was one of the first whites elected to the all-black board of the Afro-American Historical and Cultural Museum.

Four major events have resulted from his dedication to the goal of helping fellow Armenians respect their past as they fulfill their potential as Americans: in 1975 the "Thank You America" Bicentennial Banquet expressing the gratitude of the Armenians toward their adoptive land; the historic December 1977 meeting of the Armenian General Benevolent Union's President's Club in Washington during which one session was interrupted by a visit by President Carter; the May 1978 reception in the White House marking the first held there for Armenians; and the September 23 event sponsored by the Armenian Missionary Association on Ellis Island which was planned as a tribute to the immigrant ancestors of the Armenians, and to all of America's immigrants.

Born in Atlantic City, N.J. in 1930, Momjian is a graduate of Atlantic City High School and of LaSalle College in Philadelphia, where he was a journalism major.

He credits his own parents, Charles and Julia, for his understanding of the needs and aspirations of America's varied ethnic population. His parents came to this country from Malatya, Turkish Armenia, and entered this country through Ellis Island.

Momjian's Bicentennial gifts of miniature liberty bells cast from a piece of the original to President Gerald Ford and Queen Elizabeth II made headlines around the world in July 1976. Cast by master craftsman Gene Zweigle, each bell is less than an inch high and rests in an elaborate bell-shaped leather case.

At the Inaugural Concert last year, Momjian presented one of the bells to President Carter; the President keeps it on his bedroom bureau in the White House.

Momjian will be one of five individuals representing the United States at the United Nations in New York. The others are chief Ambassador Andrew Young, State Department career diplomat James Leonard, and two members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Abraham Ribicoff of Connecticut and Senator James B. Pearson of Kansas.

He has been allocated an apartment in New York near the United Nations and an office at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations.

He is married to the former Joan Darakjian Reed and has two sons, Christopher, 13, and Bruce, 16.

In commenting on his appointment, he remarked: "I feel the importance of this is not so much that I, Set Momjian, was appointed, but that an Armenian was appointed."

## TIME TO INVEST IN UNLIMITED DIVIDENDS

Schools are beginning registration. This is the time to consider investing in children's lives. You can have unlimited benefit by investing in the future well-being of young lives—IN THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OF YOUTH.

There is no way ever to measure the full impact of this kind of investment. Come alive, invest in something fundamentally VALUABLE.

For many Armenian youngsters living in the Middle-East today, an education is not only essential for their growth, but also for the continuation of their Armenian Heritage. Their lives have been a nightmare, living with fear, death, and occasionally hunger.



*For he who shares with his people  
Their sorrow and agony will feel a  
Supreme comfort created only by  
Suffering in sacrifice. And he will  
Be at peace with himself when he dies  
Innocent with his fellow innocents.  
(Kahlil Gibran)*



### THE NEED IS URGENT!

#### YOU MAY HELP BY INVESTING JUST:

\$50 to help educate an Elementary child  
\$100 to help a High School child.  
\$300 for Board, Lodging and Schooling at the  
Istanbul Youth Home.

By calling us for information in the event  
you wish to pay for the full yearly tuition of  
a child.  
(201) 265 - 2607 or 2608

### INVEST TODAY!

Fill in the coupon below and mail it to: ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.,  
140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, N.J. 07652.  
(The A.M.A.A., founded in 1918, has been in the forefront of service for 60 years. Contributions are tax deductible).

I wish to sponsor the tuition of a:  
 boy     girl in

- Elementary School at \$50 a year
- High School at \$100 a year
- Istanbul Youth Home \$300 a year
- Enclosed is my payment
- Please bill me
- Please send me information on full tuition support
- Please send more information

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

Trusting in God, and for His sake, I would like to participate in the "salvaging" of Armenian children in the Interior of Turkey, as follows (check one square):

- Sponsor a child for **one year** at \$300 for the year.
- Sponsor 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (circle number desired) children on a continuing basis at \$300 a year each.
- Sponsor the project with a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the Armenian Missionary Association of America for tax exemption, and mail to:  
AMAA, 140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, N.J. 07652

## CO-PARTNERS IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

### A Wife's Tribute to Her Husband

(Editor's note: Mrs. Ephronia Mugar, wife of the Reverend Dr. Youhanna Mugar (Mugrditchian), gave the following stirring address on the occasion of the banquet extended to her beloved husband by the Armenian Congregational Church of Haverhill, Massachusetts, on the occasion of his retirement from the ministry after 18 years of service to the Haverhill congregation, and in total conclusion of a 44-year ministry in Cyprus and the United States. It is a tribute that should have been included in our AMAA News earlier but we are glad to have the opportunity to do it in this issue)

#### Dear Friends:

It is with great gratitude and thankful heart to God, that I stand here this evening, on this occasion.

I thank you all, who have gathered here, to honor a man, whom you all respect and love.

It has been my total pleasure and privilege, to have shared this man's life, for so many years.

Together, we walked along life's plains, together we walked through deep and dark valleys of life, and praise the Lord, that together we walked also through many and many glorious mountain tops of life, and nowhere along life's journey, we were alone. There was a third Person walking with us. That Person was no other, than God Himself. He led us through the unknown paths. He gave us the needed strength, when tired and weary, our knees got shaky. He provided us with full trust in Him, when the road got thorny and treacherous.

When sickness and sorrows, even death befell us, thus, attempting to shake our faith in Him, with His great immeasurable and inexhaustible compassion and love, He gave us "SONGS IN THE NIGHT." He kept on walking with us, and talking with us along life's narrow way. He has not stopped doing all these, for He is still our constant Companion on the road, and will be, till the end of our lives.

"When we walk with the Lord

In the Light of His Word

What a glory He sheds on our way!"

God blessed our home with four precious children, one of

whom is with the Lord, among the angels. Our three

children, now are all married and live in different States.

When I stop and consider all the God's goodness and His bountiful mercies on us, I cannot help, but raise my voice with the Psalmist of old and say: "Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His Holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not His benefits."

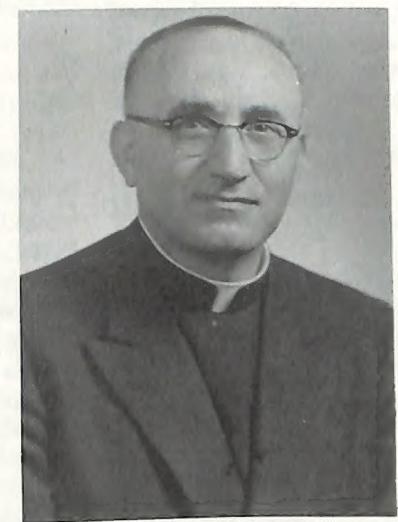
I would also, like to say a few words to you, my beloved

YOUHANNA.

Among multitudes of reasons for my gratitude and thanks to God, you, and the many long years of your invaluable Christian ministry, top it all.

At a young age, due to deep sense and Divine urge of calling, you unreservedly dedicated your life to God and His service, and since that time you never did waver from it.

Your life's mission always was to tend to the spiritual ailments and needs of men, trying to lead them to the Great Physician of souls, to Christ Jesus. Mine was to tend to the physical ailments and sufferings of men, and with the blend-



Rev. Dr. Y. Mugar

ing of these two blessed services, we both worked hand in hand for the glory of Him, Who put us, here, on this earth. Our work has not ended yet though, and with God's grace, we trust that the best is yet to come.

In your work men's praise and applause did not effect you, for you well knew from your Master's life, that men's shouts of Hossannas of today, were very short lived, and only to be followed in no time at all, by cries of "Crucify Him, Crucify Him." You did not work to please men, but your endeavors were to please your Master, the Lord. Your toil, was not for the material goods of this world, for you preferred to lay up your treasures, in Heaven.

And some day, when life's work is ended for you here, I am confident that you will be able to stand, gratified, and with that great apostle Paul of old, say: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day."

At that day, oh, at that blessed day, there will also echo into your ears from the same Judge, the Righteous Judge, a verdict. A Christian's most coveted, a Christian's most yearned for, a Christian's most wished for, most hoped for and most earnestly lived for, verdict, that eternally blissful verdict:

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant." And the command which follows this verdict will be:

"ENTER THOU INTO THE JOY OF YOUR LORD." Amen

# SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY

The Anniversary Celebrations began with the May 13th Banquet in Washington, D.C. (see AMAA News September 1978). This was followed on June 7th by the Patron's Dinner for the New York/New Jersey area when an anonymous pledge of \$1,000,000 was announced, augmented by other generous pledges. The third event was the kick-off concert which introduced the spiritual thrust of the Celebrations, namely the recording of an album of Sacred Music in Armenian and English by Miss Sylvia Kutchukian. Then followed six banquets, some preceded by patron's dinners, raising the amount of pledging to over \$1,700,000.



Miss Ruth Philibosian showing medallion presented to her by AMAA, flanked by participants in the evening's program: (left to right) Mr. Set Momjian; Mr. George Philibosian; the Honored guest, Miss Ruth; Mr. Archie Cherkezian; Attorney Albert Momjian and Dr. G.H. Chopourian.

## NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY 60TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

The joint Banquets for the New York-New Jersey area, sponsored by the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York and the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, became both a highly emotional event and a success story. The success was made possible by the pledge made by Benefactor Miss Ruth Philibosian in the amount of \$1,000,000.

The event earned first-page coverage in the papers and much appreciation was poured upon Miss Ruth Philibosian who was decorated with, for the first time in the history of the Association, a gold medallion in the form of the seal of the Association bearing the following inscription:

To Ruth Philibosian, A Great Lady  
In Appreciation, AMAA,  
September 10, 1978



Participants at the head table NY/NJ Anniversary Banquet

Participants in the program were The Rev. Zenas Ilanjan, Pastor, Armenian Evangelical Church of New York; Archie Cherkezian, President, AMAA; Set Momjian, National Chairman, 60th Anniversary Campaign Steering Committee and Ellis Island Remembered; George Philibosian, International Chairman, 60th Anniversary Campaign Steering Committee; Miss Sylvia Kutchukian, Dramatic Soprano; Albert Momjian, Esq., Solicitor, AMAA (Keynote speaker); Dr. G.H. Chopourian, Executive Director, AMAA; The Rev. Bernard Guekguezian, Pastor, Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, N.J. They excelled themselves in creating an atmosphere of commitment, leading to substantial pledging. As a result the total of the pledging (inclusive of pre-banquet pledges) amounted to \$1,304,035.

We extend our sincere thanks to the Joint Committee for their loving labors on behalf of the Association: Mr. & Mrs. Nerves Y. Aynilian, Mr. & Mrs. Gerard Bagdasarian, Mr. & Mrs. Archie Cherkezian, Dr. & Mrs. G.H. Chopourian, Rev. & Mrs. Bernard Guekguezian, Mr. & Mrs. Luther Gueyikian, Rev. & Mrs. Zenas Ilanjan, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Janjigian, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Karakashian, Dr. & Mrs. John G. Keuhnelian, Mr. & Mrs. John Keyishian, Mr. & Mrs. Steven Mardigian, Mr. & Mrs. Alex Matossian, Dr. & Mrs. Vahe Nalbandian, Mr. & Mrs. George Philibosian, Mr. & Mrs. J. Dokouzian, Mrs. & Mrs. Kirk Sermabeikian, Dr. & Mrs. J. Tezel, Mr. & Mrs. A. Timourian.

The list of the pledgers and the amounts of their pledges are listed below (with those not desiring announcements having been listed anonymously in alphabetic order):

## ARMENIAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, N.J./ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH, N.Y.

Name	Amount Pledged
Miss Ruth Philibosian	\$1,000,000
Anonymous	100
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Ajemian	1,000
Anonymous	1,000
Mrs. Arsha Louise Armaghanian	500
Mr. & Mrs. Nerves Aynilian	5,000
Dr. & Mrs. Hrair Babikian	100
Mr. & Mrs. Param Bakmazian	100
Mr. & Mrs. Gerard Bagdasarian	1,000
Rev. & Mrs. A.A. Bedikian	150
Dr. & Mrs. George Bezirgarian	5,000
Anonymous	100
Mr. & Mrs. James L. Burbage	200
Mrs. Hranoush Casparian	1,150
Mr. & Mrs. Archie Cherkezian	10,000
Mr. & Mrs. Diran J. Chilian	500
Rev. & Mrs. G.H. Chopourian	2,000
Anonymous	250
Mr. & Mrs. Zaven A. Dadekian	1,000
Mr. Dadour Dadourian	5,000
Mr. & Mrs. Levon Davidian	100
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Demirjian	1,000
Anonymous	100
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Dokouzian	1,000
Anonymous	100
Harold Fisher, Esq.	2,500
Anonymous	100
Anonymous	100
Mr. & Mrs. Sarkis Gabrellian	500
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Gertmenian	1,000
Anonymous	250
Mr. & Mrs. Luther Gueyikian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Nevdon Hanessian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hekemian	25,000
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Hekemian	25,000
Anonymous	500
Anonymous	100
Rev. & Mrs. Zenas Ilanjan	300
Anonymous	200
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Janjigian	10,000
Anonymous	500
Mr. & Mrs. Noubar Jessourian	500
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Kamajian	100
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Kapigian	3,000
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Karakashian	1,000
Rev. Dicran Y. Kassouny, M.D.	50,000
Mrs. Knarig Keshishian	500
Mrs. Garabed Keuhnelian	30,000
Dr. & Mrs. John Keuhnelian	20,000
Mr. & Mrs. John Keyishian	4,000
Mr. Robinson Keyishian	1,500
Mr. & Mrs. Ara Kherlopian	100
Anonymous	100
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Koundakjian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Serge Krikorian	5,000

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Kurkjian	200
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Lomazzo	100
Anonymous	300
Anonymous	1,000
Miss Arpine Mardigian	100
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Mardigian	500
Mr. & Mrs. Alex Matossian	500
Mr. & Mrs. James L. Melcon	500
Mr. & Mrs. M.G. Melconian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. John Melian	500
Mr. Aram H. Minnetian	100
Anonymous	200
Mrs. Virginia Moroukian	100
Mrs. Rose Movsesyan	100
Anonymous	3,500
Mr. & Mrs. Vahe Nalbandian	200
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Pashayan	100
Philibosian Children	500
Mr. & Mrs. George Philibosian	50,000
Dr. & Mrs. Vahe Roubian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Kourken Salibian	500
Mrs. Bertha Sarkisian	100
Mrs. Flora Sarkisian	6,150
Mr. & Mrs. Krikor Sermabeikian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Shahinian	500
Rev. & Mrs. S.K. Sulahian	200
Dr. & Mrs. Jirayr Tezel	10,000
Mr. & Mrs. Anarig Timourian	1,000
Mrs. Zabelle Tourian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Vahe Yervanian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. John Vartanian	100
Plus 5 pledges under \$100 totaling	185

\$1,304,035



Edward M. Kavjian, MD; Mrs. Joyce Philibosian Stein addressing the guests at the Aronimink Country Club, The Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji and Mrs. Peter Doghramji.

## PHILADELPHIA AMAA CHAPTER BANQUET BRINGS OVER \$300,000 IN PLEDGES

The second fruitful pre-banquet and banquet was held in the Philadelphia area on September 15 and 17 respectively. The committee which organized it was led ably by Mrs. Sara Benglian who undoubtedly inspired the committee membership as well as the congregation of the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church. Participants in the program of the Banquet held at the Aronimink Golf Club were The Rev. Dr. Peter B. Doghramji (Invocation and Greetings), Sara Benglian



Mrs. Joyce Philibosian Stein; Solicitor Albert Momjian, Keynote Speaker; Ambassador Set Momjian and Mrs. Albert Momjian.

(Chairman), Dr. Edward M. Kavjian (Master of Ceremonies), Ambassador Set Momjian (Greetings), Mr. George Philibosian (Greetings), Miss Sylvia Kutchukian (Vocal Soloist), Albert Momjian, Esq. (Keynote Speaker), The Rev. Dr. G.H. Chopourian (Appeal), Mrs. Joyce Philibosian Stein (Appeal) and the Very Rev. Zaven Arzoumanian. The successful results of the 60th Anniversary Celebrations in Philadelphia were chiefly based on the pledge of \$250,000 from the Stephen Philibosian Foundation. In a surprise announcement, Mrs. Joseph H. Stein, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation, committed the Foundation to a \$250,000 pledge. The decision came from the members of the Board of Trustees who are (in addition to Mrs. Stein) Miss Ruth Philibosian, Mrs. Louise Danielian, Albert Momjian, Esq. and Mr. Nazar Daghlian.

We wish to extend our sincere gratitude to the members of the Banquet Committee, which was actually the Missionary Committee of the Host Church, for their loving labors: The Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji (Advisor), Mrs. Vahan E. Benglian (Chairman), Mr. Edward Chalikian (Secretary), Mr. Nazar Daghlian, Miss Armenouhie Der Boghossian, Mr. Howard Garabedian, Mrs. John Hamill, Mrs. Martin F. Hatch, Mr. Mardie Juskalian (Treasurer), Mr. Ara Sahelian, Mrs. Edward M. Kavjian, Mrs. Leon Sarkis and Miss Betty Ann Spence.

The contributions are being listed below under the same conditions as was done for the New York-New Jersey area listing.

## PHILADELPHIA Armenian Martyrs Cong'l Church

Stephen Philibosian Foundation	\$250,000
Anonymous	100
Anonymous	100
Anonymous	100
Anonymous	1,000

Mr. & Mrs. A. Bagdoyan	100
Mary Bekmezian	500
Millard Bekmezian	1,500
Mr. & Mrs. Vahan Benglian	1,000
Anonymous	100
Mr. & Mrs. John Bogosian	5,000
Anonymous	2,000
Mr. & Mrs. Nazar Daghlian	5,000
Mr. Hagop Dedeyan	100
Mr. & Mrs. John Devedjian	500
Anonymous	300
Mr. & Mrs. Robert G. Djergaian	300
Rev. & Mrs. Peter Doghramji	500
Anonymous	200
Mr. & Mrs. H.H. Hancock	10,000
Mary Hartunian	100
The Martin F. Hatch Fund	2,000
Mrs. Elizabeth Jerjisian	1,000
Anonymous	5,000
Mr. & Mrs. Aram Kabakjian	100
Mrs. Rose Kabakjian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. George Kalemkarian	100
Dr. & Mrs. Edward Kavjian	5,000
Mr. & Mrs. Hilton A. Levonian	100
Anonymous	100
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Momjian	5,000
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Paulson	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Hratch Sarian	1,000
Mrs. David B. Shakarian	100
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Stephy	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Sudjian	250
Mr. & Mrs. John Tokmajian	100
Mr. & Mrs. Aram Zakian	250
Mrs. Grace Zobian	100
Plus 5 pledges under \$100 totaling	165

\$301,865



The Rev. Vincent Kumjian reporting to Dr. G.H. Chopourian on plans for the Celebration.

## GREATER BOSTON 60TH CELEBRATION

Under the sponsorship of the Armenian Memorial Church of Watertown (First Belmont Church not participating officially as they have the mortgage reduction campaign) a Patron's Dinner was held on Thursday evening, September 28th and a Banquet on Friday, September 29th, both at the Hotel Sonesta in Cambridge, Mass. There was a charged atmosphere created by the presence of

the newly appointed Ambassador Set Momjian and the beautiful rendition of music by our Dramatic Soprano, Sylvia Kutchukian.

There was extensive pledging so that with the patron's dinner pledges and pledges made earlier by members of the First Belmont Church on an individual basis, the total of the pledging rose to \$34,925.

The Rev. Vincent Kumjian delivered the invocation and greetings, and the members of the Missions Committee assisting in the preparation and execution of the program were Mrs. Steve Balyosian, Charles Changelian, Mrs. John Mekjian, Mrs. Charles Nazarian, Mrs. Aram Tolajian, Mrs. Hagop Yaghshizian and Haig Ohanian, Chairman. The pre-banquet Chairman was Mr. Edward Shooshanian with Mr. Haig Ohanian assisting. The Master of Ceremonies at the banquet was Mr. George Boole and Keynote Speaker was Mr. Set Momjian.

The members of the Banquet Committee were Rev. Vincent Kumjian, Pastor; Edward Shooshanian, Chairman; Richard Koundakjian; Dr. Edward Karian; Haig Ohanian; Ara Ohanian; Armen Dohanian. We extend our sincere gratitude to the Committees' members as well as the members of the congregation and the Pastor for their loving labors.

The contributions are being listed below:

#### ARMENIAN MEMORIAL CHURCH Watertown, MA

Dr. Gregory Adamian	\$ 500
Anonymous	200
Mr. Garabed Alajajian	200
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Balyosian	100
Anonymous	100
Anonymous	250
Anonymous	200
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Changelian	1,000
Mr. Samuel Chekijian	150
Anonymous	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. John S. Davagian	500
Mrs. Aznive Demirjian	100
Mr. & Mrs. Armen Dohanian	1,000
Anonymous	200
Sarkis Fereshetian Estate	5,000
Anonymous	100
Anonymous	100
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kaloosdian	250
Dr. & Mrs. Edward Karian	2,000
Mary Kazelian	100
Anonymous	100
Rev. Vincent J. Kumjian	150

Mr. Berj M. Manoushagian	300
Mr. & Mrs. Zareh Maserjian	100
Anonymous	500
Anonymous	150
Mrs. Edward Nahigian	5,000
Mrs. Marie Nahigian	10,000
Mrs. Elizabeth Nargozian	100
Mr. & Mrs. George Nazarian	300
Anonymous	150
Anonymous	150
Anonymous	300
Anonymous	100
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Shooshanian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Topalian	500
Anonymous	100
Dr. Hovnan and	
Mr. Edward Tashian	2,000
The Misses Yeranian	500
Plus 15 pledges under \$100 totaling	375
	<hr/>
	\$34,925



Guests at the head table at the Salem Banquet.

#### SALEM, N.H. 60TH CELEBRATION

The Ararat Armenian Congregational Church of Salem, N.H. on October 8, 1978 sponsored a 60th Anniversary Banquet at the Ararat Armenian Church Vestry. A patron's dinner was held on October 5th at the Green Barn in Salem. The group, though small comparatively, pledged enthusiastically and the total amounted to \$18,125. The unique thing was that everyone present made a pledge. Salem may win the crown.

Participants in the program were: The Rev. Soghomon Nuyujukian, Pastor, Ararat Armenian Congregational Church; George Philibosian, International Chairman 60th Anniversary Campaign Steering Committee; Dr. G.H. Chopourian, Executive Director, AMAA; Sylvia Kutchukian, Dramatic Soprano; Linda Jaffarian, Concert Pianist; Ambassador Set Momjian, National Chairman, 60th Anniversary Campaign Steering Committee and Ellis Island Remem-



Members and friends of Ararat Armenian Congregational Church celebrating AMAA's 60th Anniversary.

bered. George Philibosian was Master of Ceremonies and Set Momjian the Keynote Speaker. Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Donabedian, Mr. & Mrs. Ashod Pahigian and Mr. & Mrs. Leo Danielian assisted by accepting reservations for the patron's dinner.

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to all who made the Celebration a success; the loving labors of the congregation and the Pastor are especially appreciated.

Listed below are the contributions:  
ARARAT ARMENIAN CONG'L  
CHURCH, Salem, N.H.

Anonymous	\$ 100
Anonymous	100
Mesrop Berberian	150
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Danielian	100
Miss Rose Danielian	1,000
Miss Anita P. Davidian	125
Miss Elizabeth R. Davidian	125
Miss Rose E. Davidian	100
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Donabedian	1,000
Mr. Suren Donabedian, Jr.	100
Mr. & Mrs. Suren Donabedian	1,000
Mr. Charles P. Garabedian	100
Anonymous	300
Vera & Nash Garabedian	200
Aram S. & Vahey S. Gulezian	1,500
Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Gulezian	100
Dr. & Mrs. Paul Y. Hasserjian	3,000
Haverhill Armenian Cong'l Church	4,000
Anonymous	250
Anonymous	300
Anna Kachadorian	100
Mr. & Mrs. Carnick Kachadorian	500
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Kazarosian	400
Anonymous	100
Anonymous	1,000
Miss Rose Kochakian	100
Margaret & Louise Matorian	100
Sona & Hasmik Meimarian	150
Mr. Hratch Nuyujukian	200
Rev. & Mrs. S. Nuyujukian	1,000
David Vartanian	150
Plus 25 pledges under \$100 totaling	675
	<hr/>
	\$18,125



On behalf of  
The Armenian Missionary  
Association of America

May we take this opportunity  
to wish all our readers

A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS  
and a  
BLESSED NEW YEAR.

Board of Directors  
Executive Director  
AMAA Staff

Below are the list of contributions as a result of this banquet:

PROVIDENCE BANQUET	
Anonymous	\$ 100
Dr. & Mrs. D. Richard Baronian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Apkar A. Bartigian	100
Anonymous	100
Mr. & Mrs. K. Bologyan & family	100
Miss Mary-Jean Boyajian	100
Mr. Paul Boyajian	100
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Boyajian	100
Mr. & Mrs. Haig Chopoorian	1,000
Dr. & Mrs. Edward A. Dayian	100
Mrs. Arsen Goergizian	120
Anonymous	1,000
Mr. Richard Johnson	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Kaloustian	300
Mr. & Mrs. Haig Kalunian	500
Mr. & Mrs. Zenas J. Kevorkian	500
Mrs. Gailden Alice Najarian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Nalbandian	2,500
Mr. & Mrs. Ara Shiragian	1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Missac Thompson	100
Mr. & Mrs. John Yeretsian	100
Plus 45 pledges under \$100	1,004
	<hr/>
	\$11,924



Providence community celebrating AMAA's 60th Anniversary.

It was enjoyed by a group of 150. The contributions were generous and the total amounted to almost \$12,000. Our Dramatic Soprano, Sylvia Kutchukian, again entertained with her beautiful voice; the Keynote Address was given by Set Momjian and the Master of Ceremonies was Haig Chopoorian.

The Invocation was given by The Rev. Father Haik Donikian, and other participants in the program were The Rev. Leon Tavitian, George Rev. Philibosian, The Rev. Dr. G.H. Chopourian, The Rev. Dr. Mesrob Tashjian who bestowed the Benediction. Miss Linda Jaffarian accompanied our Sylvia in her vocal selections.

Those who served on the Rhode Island Celebrations Committee are Mr. & Mrs. Ara Shiragian, Chairpersons; Mr. & Mrs. Haig Chopoorian; Mr. & Mrs. Zenas Kevorkian and the Rev. Leon Tavitian, Advisor. We are very thankful to all the participants and the Committees' members, as well as the congregation and Pastor for their loving labors.



Head table of the Providence Celebrations held at the Hearthstone Inn, Mass.

#### CAPITALAND AREA PATRONS' DINNER BRINGS \$7,095

With two pledges made directly to the AMAA Headquarters from the Capitaland area, the Patrons' Dinner held in Albany on Wednesday, October 25, 1978 raised our Capital Fund total by \$7,095.

The more important result was the warm atmosphere in which the story, work, and hopes of the Association were shared by an understanding group of twelve Christ centered individuals.

Contributions and pledges were as follows:

ALBANY BANQUET	
Anonymous	\$ 4,000
Dr. & Mrs. John P. Essepien	1,000
Dr. & Mrs. Leo G. Aroian	500
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Akullian	1,250
Mr. Manoog Sunukjian	100
(in addition to other generous commitments)	
Mrs. Alice Sunukjian	100
Mr. & Mrs. K. Kachadourian	100
Plus 2 pledges under \$100 totaling	45
	<hr/>
	\$7,095

The following are needed in our office:

Typewriter  
Postal Scale  
Printing Calculator  
Specialized File Cabinet  
Photo Albums for our large  
store of photos.

I wish to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your donations will help us to make more money available for our many important works. Please make checks payable to Armenian Missionary Association, 140 Forest Ave., Paramus, N.J. 07652.

# SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS IN SOUTH AMERICA

To celebrate its 60 years of missionary endeavor and service, the Board of Directors of the AMAA decided to send one of its members, the Rev. Jirair Sogomian, to South America to help three Armenian Evangelical communities celebrate this important milestone in the life of this grand organization.

Charged with the mission to promote the work and the interest of the Association in the Armenian communities of South America, and in the true sense of the word to celebrate — that is to publish abroad — its multifarious ministries in the name of Christ, Rev. Sogomian departed from Los Angeles on Thursday, August 17, 1978, for a three week visit covering Montevideo, Uruguay; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Sao Paulo, Brazil. In each of these three cities, with the advance help and guidance of the Executive Director, the Rev. Dr. G.H. Chopourian, the local chapters of the AMAA had organized a host of activities within the community. In each city, these activities were climaxed by a gala banquet where Rev. Sogomian was the guest speaker.



## *Buenos Aires, Argentina*



### *Montevideo, Uruguay*



In Buenos Aires, Argentina, where Rev. Sogomian spent six days, the newly purchased building of the AMAA on one of the most important Avenues in the heart of the City, became the center of activities throughout that period. A series of three

In Montevideo, Uruguay, the special meetings and worship services were held in the Armenian Evangelical Church,

newly purchased through the generous help of the AMAA. Rev. Sogomian had the privilege of reaching out to the entire community with the story of AMAA through the two Armenian Radio Stations which broadcast four and a half hours of Armenian programs every day. On Saturday, August 19, at 0:00 p.m. more than one hundred guests, representing the entire Armenian community, were honored at a banquet held in one of the sumptuous halls of the Victoria Plaza hotel. It was most pleasing experience for those present to hear of the monumental work done by the AMAA in thirteen different countries around the world.

vening worship services, organization-meetings with the local committee, and a fund-raising banquet in their own hall with more than 230 people attending, marked the highlights of that week. In addition to these meetings, Rev. Sogomian had the rare privilege of visiting five of the seven Armenian daily schools in the City of Buenos Aires, and to relate to the host of students the extensive educational work which the AMAA has been undertaking in the Middle East and elsewhere. The joyful news that some 10,000 Armenian students receive their education in some thirty schools that are financially supported by the AMAA was indeed good news to students, teachers and principals alike.

The third city visited by Rev. Sogomian was Sao Paulo, Brazil. For seven full days, he took every opportunity to expose to the Armenian community the extensive humanitarian efforts of the Association to the needy among our people all over the world. At a banquet held in the Armenian Community Hall with close to 200 guests attending, Rev. Sogomian gave an invitation and a challenge to those present to become a part of that host of benefactors who give generously and sacrificially for the preservation of all that is beautiful, rich and most worthwhile in our culture and tradition. His message did not go unheeded, for many responded generously to the appeal, and thus became partners in the holy task of preserving and uplifting our people all over the world.

In a summary statement regarding his overall impressions and the impact of his trip, Rev. Sogomian emphasized the importance of our South American Armenian communities within the total picture of the Armenian diaspora. Their vitality, enthusiasm and eagerness to be and remain good Armenians against great odds, is most commendable and worthy of emulation. No matter where, in this wide world, two or three Armenians get together, there you may be sure will soon be a church, school, and a community which, through its major contributions to their adopted country, would bring honor to God and the Armenian name.

# Հայերեն բաժին

ԵՐԱՊԱՏՈՒԵԼԻ ՄՈՎՍԻՍ  
ԱՆԴՎԱԶԵԱՆ ԻՐ ՀՈԿՑԵՄԲԵՐ 13  
ԴՈՒԱԿԻՐՈՎ ԿԸ ՏԵՂԵԿԱՑՆԵ  
ԵՏՏԵՒԵԱԼ ԱՐԵՏԱԼԻ ԴԵՊՔԵՐԸ՝  
ԱՍԱՀԱՇ ՊԵՑՐՈՒԹԻ ՀԱՅԱՇԱՏ  
ԻԱՂԵՐՈՒ ՄԵԶ

Սիրելի Վեր. Զօփուրեան;  
Կ'ողջունեմ ձեզ Տէր Յիսուս Քրիս-  
տոսի անունով եւ կը յուսամ որ Աս-  
ուուծոյ շնորհքով ձեր գործերը բնա-  
կանոն եւ օրհնաբեր կերպով կ'ընթա-  
նան:

Վստահաբար լսեցիք Պէյրութի եւ  
մասնաւորապէս Արեւելեան շրջանի  
վերջին դէպքերուն մասին։ Անցնող  
քանի մը ամիսներուն լարուած մըթ-  
նոլորտ մը կը տիրէր արդէն եւ յաճա-  
խակի բախումներ տեղի կ'ունենա-  
յին։ Սակայն Սեպտ. 29ին սկսած ոմ-  
բակոծումը, հաւանաբար ամէնէն  
գորաւորր մինչեւ հիմա եղածներուն։

էւ լւ հրատակ հարուածել Արեւելեան Պէյրումը եւ մասնաւորապէս Պուրճ Համբուռի հայաշատ վրձանը: Բախումները սաստիկ էին եւ հետեւաբար հետեւանքներն ալ ծանր եւ ողբերգական: Անխնայ ոմբակոծուեցան բոլոր հայաշատ վրձանները՝ նոր Մարաշ, նոր Կիլիկիա, նոր Ամանոս, Տորա, Էջմիածին, Հաճըն, Խալիլ Պէտուի, եւ մինչեւ իսկ Անթիլիաս: Քանդուցան տուներ, խանութներ, գործատեղիներ: Ռմբակոծումէ զերծ չմնացին նաև մեր եկեղեցիները, դպրոցները եւ հաստատութիւնները: Եղած քանդումը եւ վնասը աներեւակայելլ եւ անհաջուելի է: Բարեբախտաբար հայ գոհերու թիւը համեմատաբար քիչ եղած է՝ չուրջ 60 հոգի եւ 600 վիրաւորեալ: Մինչեւ 7 Հոկտեմբեր տեղող այս ոմբակոծումներու ընթացքին մասունկեալ, շաբաթ մը ամբողջ ա

ՎԱՐՍՈՒԻՆԱՄԵԱԿԻ  
ՏՕՆԱԿԱՏԱՐՈՒԹԻՒՆԸ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԱՅԻ  
ՀԱՅ ԱԽԵՏԱՐԱՆՉԱԿԱՆ  
ԸՆԿԵՐՈՒԹՅԱՆ ԱԿԱԴԵՄԻ

Օգոստոս 26 Շաբաթ իրիկուն, քա-  
աքիս «Աւետարանչական»ի մասնա-  
հանդի ընդարձակ ու շքեղ հանդիսա-  
րահին մէջ տեղի ունեցաւ Ամերի-  
այի Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկե-  
ալկոոլիքնան 60րդ տարեդարձի տօ-  
ակատարութիւնը մեծ շուքով:

Առաջին առթիւ տեղի ունեցաւ  
աշկերպյթ մը շուրջ 250 սեղանա-  
լիցներու ներկայութեամբ, որոնց  
արգին տեղւոյս Յ համայնքներու  
ողբեւոր զասի, մամուլի, ձայնաս-  
իփուի եւ կարգ մը հաստատութեանց  
իւր ներկայացուցիչներու, ինչպէս  
լւետարաննականի Կեդրոնական  
յարմինի անդամ Վեր. Ժիրայր Սո-  
լոմեան՝ որ յատկապէս քաղաք  
համանած էր Միացեալ Նահանգնե-  
ռէն 4 օր առաջ՝ տալու համար օրուա-  
դիխաւոր պատգամը:

Ներկաները բոլորուեցան ծաղիկներով ու գունաւոր մոմերով շքեղութէն զարդարուած սեղաններու շուրջ։ Ընկերակցութեանս փոխ նախագահ տոքթ. Բիւզանդ Զալրգեան բարի գալուստի խօսքէն՝ սեղաննակիցներու յոտնկայս «Թող Վառին Ազուտ Ճրագները» երգով՝ ընկերակցութեամբ դաշնակի տիկ. Հայկանոյց Սրապիօննեանի եւ Վեր. Յուկաննէս էքիզեանի սեղանի օրհնութեամբ սկսաւ համազամ ճաշը՝ պատրաստած էին Ընկերակցութեան ժրաջան տիկինները՝ գլխաւորութեամբ տիկ. Ռազմուհի Խըլրոբեանլ ճաշը տեւեց զուարթ ու ոգեւորդ մթնոլորտի մը մէջ։

գեղարուեստական մասը: Յայտագիշ  
վարեց Ընկերակցութեանս փոխ ն  
խագահ տոքթ. Բիւզանդ Զալբգեա  
որ իր բացման խօսքին սկիզբը նե  
կաները հրաւիրեց վայրկեան մը ո  
քի կենալի ի յարգանս «Աւետարանչ  
կան»ի այն բոլոր վարչական անդա  
ներու անմոռաց յիշատակին՝ որո  
մեկնած են այս աշխարհէն, ա  
Վեր. Ժ. Սոլոմեանի կարճ աղջ

Ձերդ Ալզիթարար քէն վերջ՝ յարգելի ատենապետը և  
Մ.Պ. ՃԱՆՊԱԶԵԱՆ բունակելով իր խօսքը ի մէջ այլոց

# OBITUARIES

## ՄՈՆԵՎԻՏԻԿԻ

### ՀԱՅ ԱՒԵՏԱՐԱՆՉԱԿԱՆԻ 60ԱՄԵԱՅ ՏԱՐԵԴԱՐՁԼ

սաւ «Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութիւնը եղած է եւ է կապը միացնող, զօդող Աւետարանչական եկեղեցիներու եւ կազմակերպութիւններու: Եղաւ եւ է զօրավիզը նոր ձեռնարկներու, գաղափարներու եւ իտէաներու: Առաջնորդեց, խանդավանք նիւթական օժանդակութենէն ալ աւելի անդին: Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութիւնը սորվեցուց եւ վարժեցուց մեր ժողովուրդին «տալու» առաքինութիւնը»:

Օրուան զիսաւոր բանախօսն էր Վեր. Փ. Սողոմնեան: Խօսքը անոր տալէն առաջ պր. Թագւոր Տէտէեան՝ ըստ պատշաճի ներկաներուն ծանօթացուց զինք՝ տալով անոր կենսագրական գիծերը:

Ապա ոտքի ելլելով խօսք առաւ Վեր. Փիրայր Սողոմնեան: յարգելի բանախօսը նախ ծանրացաւ այն զըրդապահ հանուներուն վրայ՝ որոնք գոյութեան բերին «Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութիւնը»: Դարուս սկիզբ,» յարեց ան՝ «Երբ Ա. Համաշխարհային պատերազմը կը մըղուէր բաղում ճակատներու վրայ, թուրք ոճրագործ կառավարութիւնը պատեհ առիթը եկած սեպեց եւ իր դարերով երազած հրեշային ծրագիրը ի գործ դրաւ: Հայը պէտք է բնաջնջուի, հայը պէտք է մեռնի, եւ փոթորիկը անցաւ մեր գլուոն վրայէն իր բովանդակ արհաւիրքով: Պատերազմի աւարտին, Ամերիկայի Հայ Աւետարանչական եկեղեցիներու Միութիւնը ըստ, «Հայը պէտք է ապրի,» եւ իր ծոցէն գոյութեան բերաւ ազգանուէր կազմակերպութիւն մը «Ամերիկայի Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութիւն»: Վերականգնելու համար մեր խորտակուած «Հարուստ անտառը»: Ապա յարգելի բանախօսը մանրամասն թուեց «Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան վերջին վաթունարիներէ ի վեր կատարած նախախնամական գերը մեր ժողովուրդին հոգեկան, իմացական, ֆիզիրական եւ մշակութային կալուաներէն ներսու: Ապա իր խօսքը վերջացուց կոչ ընելով ներկաներուն սրախն, որ «իրենց սրտարուին նուէրներուի յիշեն Աւետարանչականը, այս բարեդչպ առիթով, որպէսզի ան կարենայ աւելի լայն չափերով նուիրուիլ մեր ժողովուրդի բազմապիսի կարիքներուն»:

Վեր. Փ. Սողոմնեանի սոյն պատգամը սպաներէնի թարգմանեց՝ տեղույս Հայ Աւետարանչական եկեղեցու Հովիւր՝ Պատուելի Յովսէփ Պալեան:

Ապա ներս բերուեցաւ աւանդական կարկանդակը վառելու համար վաթուն մոմեր, առաջին առթիւ՝ օրուանկնքահայրը՝ պր. Փիրայր Թօփալեան վառեց առաջին կեղրոնական մոմը, Ընկերակցութեանս նուիրելով 1000 տոլար: Երկրորդ մոմը վառեց Ընկերակցութեանս նախագահ պր. Լուտմիկ Ճիվէլէկեան՝ նուիրելով 500,000 նոր բէսօ, եւ այսպէս շարունակուեցաւ նուիրատուներուն շարքը, որոնց առաւել կամ նուազ գումարներով մասնակցեցան մոմավառութեան եւ շատ կարճ ժամանակի ընթացքին գոյացաւ չօչափելի գումար մը:

Մոմավառութեան ընթացքին բոլոր հանդիսականներուն հրամցուեցաւ սուրբ եւ կարկանդակ:

Մէջ ընդ մէջ գեղարուեստական

բաժնին իրենց մասնակցութիւնը բերին՝ տիկ. Հայկանուշ Սրապիօննեան՝ գաշնակով՝ «Impromptu de Schubert թիւ 2»: Փոքրիկն Ստեփան Սեւեան՝ արտասանութեամբ՝ «Վշտահար Մարդ մը»: տիկ. Քրիստո Թորոսեան՝ մէներգով՝ «Ով Կենդանի Հաւատք Մեր Հարց» դաշնակով իրեն կ'ընկերանար տիկ. Հ. Սրապիօննեան: Թէ՛ խօսողները եւ թէ գեղարուեստական բաժնին մէջ ելոյթ ունեցողները արժանացան հանդիսականներու խոր գնահատանքին, զոր արտայայտեցին բուռն եւ խանդավառ ծափահարութիւնինով: Պր. Իսահակ Շատարեւանի փակման խօսքով ու Արժ. Տ. Շաւարչ Խ. Աւագ Քչնյ. Մէջրապեանի պահպանիչով վերջ գտաւ երեկոյթը խանդավառ մթնուրտի մը մէջ:

Հոս նաեւ կ'արժէ յիշել որ՝ Վեր. Փ. Սողոմնեան իր վեց օրերու մեր մէջ կեցութեան ընթացքին կատարեց շարք մը աւետարանչական ժողովներ Ընկերակցութեանս շէնքին մէջ կուկիկ բազմութեան մը ներկայութեան, իսկ Օգոստոս 27ի Կիրակի առաւօտ անքարուց քաղաքիս Հայ Աւետարանչական եկեղեցու յիշեն Աւետարանչականը, այս բարեդչպ առիթով, որպէսզի ան կարենայ աւելի լայն չափերով նուիրուիլ մեր ժողովուրդի բազմապիսի կարիքներուն»:

ԱՆԴՐԱՆԻԿ ՄԵԼՔԻՍԵԿԻԴԵԱՆ

թէյասեղան մը ընդհանուր անդամներու ներկայութեամբ ի պատիւ Վեր. Փ. Սողոմնեանի:

Հետեւեալ օր երկուշաբի կէսօրէ վերջ ժամը 3ին Վեր. Փ. Սողոմնեան հրամեց առնելով մէկնեցաւ Սան Փաւո, Պրազիլ, նոյն առաքելութեամբ:

ԹԱԳԻՈՐ ՏէՏէԱՆ

### JAMES KOUNDAKJIAN

1911 - 1978

We deeply regret the passing of a good friend and a gentleman in every sense of the word. It is unfortunate indeed, that "Jimmy" as we called him, passed away on September 21st in the prime of his life, while on a trip to Armenia. He was a tireless worker for the AMAA and the AEUNA. We shall miss him.

We list below his involvements in the cause of humanity:

Christian Endeavor Society in Aleppo, Syria; Armenian Evangelical Emmanuel Church, Aleppo; Armenian Memorial Church, Watertown, Mass.; Masis Armenian Congregational Church, Los Angeles; Gethsemane Armenian Congregational Church, Los Angeles; United Armenian Congregational Church, Hollywood; Executive Council of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America; California District Committee of AMAA; Board of Directors of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc.; Haigazian College Board member, Board of Directors of the Armenian Evangelical Social Service Center in Hollywood; Liaison to Ararat Club of Leconte Jr. High School and counselor.

A Memorial Service was held on October 1st at 7:00 p.m. at the United Armenian Congregational Church of Hollywood, California. Those who participated in the Service were the Rev. Vartkes Kassouni, Coordinator; The Rev. Edward Tovmassian, Life Sketch; The Rev. Harry Missirlian, the Message. Testimonials were delivered by the Rev. Jirair Sogomian, Mrs. Elizabeth Agbabian, Mr. Hratch Baliozian, Mr. Vahan Churukian and Dr. Norair Sarian. He is survived by his loving wife, Mary; his daughters, Claire Roberts and Lynn Mugerditchian; two grandchildren, Shant Michael and Ani Marie; his brother, Albert and wife Yevnige and children Dora and Philip; his sister, Gulenia married to the Rev. Nerves Khachadourian of Teheran, Iran and their three daughters, Grace (married to Rev. Jirair Sogomian); Ani Khachadourian and Silvia Haytayan.

Another thing, uncle Jimmy, that made me admire you silently, was the way you saw the good, the beautiful and the promising in people, and especially the young people. The way you took interest in the Armenian youth at La Conte Jr. High, the way you often expressed yourself about them, "those beautiful young kids" you would say, "we have to do

the Service. Refreshments were served. Memorial donations may be made to The Istanbul Youth Home, c/o Armenian Missionary Association of America, 140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, N.J. 07652, and also The Armenian Evangelical Social Service Center of Hollywood.

The following loving and eloquent testimonial was delivered by the Rev. Jirair M. Sogomian, Pastor of the Emmanuel Armenian Congregational Church of Downey, California; at the Memorial Service:



Dear Uncle Jimmy:

When I heard of your abrupt exit from the scene of our life here in Southern California, I must confess that alongside with hundreds of your friends, I too felt deeply disappointed and even a little bit angry. But because I know through our common friend Isaiah, the prophet, that "God's thoughts are not our thoughts, neither are his ways our ways," I cannot hold against you your sudden departure from the scene of our common life!

I have not written too many letters to you through the years of our friendship, except perhaps a few when we served together on the executive committee of the Armenian Evangelical Union. But here is a personal letter which I would have liked to write to you, except for the fact that the opportunity never presented itself. Oh, some might think it's a little late to write to you, but I am certain the messengers of heaven will make sure you receive this message.

Through the years that you were with us here on earth, you made sure your left hand would not know what your right hand was doing. You knew

how to do your good deeds quietly without any noise or fanfare. You sowed the seeds of good will so gently and quietly like snowflakes that fall on the ground to enrich the soil with moisture that it may bring an abundant harvest. But I think it is time now to let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and give glory to our Father in heaven. I guess I should have done this while you were still with us, but you know how we are, we never fully appreciate the good and beautiful until we lose it... and besides, it would have caused you embarrassment to hear someone sing your praises. And so, I admired you, mostly silently, just the way you loved people!

Oh, how you loved people, all people, in more ways than one can describe. You never believed in pure spirituality. For you there was no justice apart from *doing justly*. For you there was no such thing as mercy apart from *merciful deeds*. And you never thought of love apart from *loving somebody* in specific and concrete ways. You loved the poor, the dispossessed, the lonely and sometimes rough immigrants that came to our shores. You loved the unloved, even those forgotten by our churches. When we did not yet have our Armenian Evangelical Social Service Center, you alone were a Social Service Center, reaching out to those in need, and freely giving of your time, talents and treasure with a Christ-like spirit and a beautiful smile that brought joy, comfort and hope to all around you. Most of all, you loved your people. You loved them as a father, as a brother, as a friend, but above all as a fellow sufferer. To me, a preacher, you preached more sermons of the flesh and blood kind, the kind God likes to hear. Your deeds of love and mercy were your offering, your worship to God. "Truly, I say to you," as you already know by now, "that all you did to the least of your human brothers and sisters, you did it to Jesus."

Another thing, uncle Jimmy, that made me admire you silently, was the way you saw the good, the beautiful and the promising in people, and especially the young people. The way you took interest in the Armenian youth at La Conte Jr. High, the way you often expressed yourself about them, "those beautiful young kids" you would say, "we have to do

something for them; we have to find some money and take care of their needs." The way you showed fatherly concern for them makes so many of us ashamed of our selfish non-involvement. At your age, and in your busy life, you accepted the challenges that should have been claimed by younger people, but they were all busy making money, and you were so young at heart!

Last week at church, a character in our Old Testament lesson reminded me so much of you. Remember good old Caleb, Joshua's friend? Remember how Caleb and Joshua were the only two of the twelve spies sent to the promised land who brought back words of courage and hope to their fellow Israelites. Well, 45 years later, when Caleb was 85 years old, the Israelites were standing on the edge of the Promised Land, and because of his faithfulness to God, he was offered to choose any part of the land he wanted. Would he take the rich valley, or the fertile fields, or the beautiful lands by the river? No! Caleb tells Joshua, "Give me the mountain." Give me the rough country where the giant sons of Anak had to be conquered. At 85, Caleb accepted the challenge that youth would shirk, because he trusted God to be faithful. He reminded me so much of you! And you were so much like him, always choosing the mountain because you had the energy, the patience, the courage and the dedication to climb. By the way, if you happen to meet good old Caleb, say Hello! to him, and tell him that his wonderful example of courage and faith has not been lost to history, neither shall your example of courage and faith be lost to us. Where you have left, we shall continue the climb. We may never reach the top, but we shall always continue the climb inspired by your selfless, courageous spirit.

Well, uncle Jimmy, what more shall I say. As you shared your life with us, you taught us and inspired us to walk the second mile of Christian service, and in your death you shall continue to speak to us through the hundreds of lives you have touched with the gentleness of your spirit. May God establish the work of your indefatigable hands.

Those of us left behind for a while, today celebrate your life and thank God from the bottom of our hearts for one we loved dearly, our unique Uncle Jimmy.

Your Partner in His Service,  
Jirair

### VÄHE A. BERBERIAN

#### Composer of Armenian Classical Music

Vähe A. Berberian, 48, composer of Armenian classical and sacred music, died Wednesday, October 4, 1978, at his home in Beltsville, Maryland. He suffered from arteriosclerosis. He was the son of the late Reverend and Mrs. Assadour Berberian.



Mr. Berberian was born in Keurkune (Kessab), Syria. He was educated at the Melkonian Institution, Nicosia, Cyprus, from 1946 to 1951. After graduation, he attended Aleppo College, Aleppo, Syria, and was graduated in 1953. He taught physical education at Aleppo College from 1953 to 1957. In 1956, he was Athlete of the Year in Syria and a Silver Medalist in the Middle East Olympics. In 1957, he came to the United States to further his education, and attended Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan. He earned his Bachelor's Degrees in music and geography in 1960. He then came to Washington, D.C., and earned his Master's Degree in international relations in 1964, with special emphasis on Middle Eastern affairs. Vähe Berberian would have received his PhD in international service in June 1970, but he had the unfortunate experience of suffering a heart attack in December 1969, followed by three additional heart attacks and open heart surgery. Following his tragic heart ailment, he dedicated most of his time to composing music. The first two compositions were sacred music; "The Lord's Prayer", and "My Lord, My Lord, I Love You". The first one reverently expressed his Christian faith, and the second one was an expression of gratitude for God for his healing and sustaining love. Later, several other spiritual creations followed; namely, "The Crucifixion", "Hallelujah to the Lord", "Praise the Lord", and "Hallelujah, A Child is Born in Bethlehem". He recently completed "Overture to 1915", a forty-five minute symphonic composition, the only one of its kind, inspired by the Armenian massacres of 1915. Upon completion of the "Overture of 1915", he said, "now I can die in peace". His classical and sacred music compositions were performed before Armenian and American groups in Washington at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and the Armenian Apostolic Church of St. Mary's by musicians from the National and Arlington symphonies.

He was a member of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, and a true friend of all Armenians.

Survivors include his wife, E. Pauline; a brother, George of Miami; and a sister, Berjouhi Callaway of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

A memorial service was held at Hines-Rinaldi Funeral Home on October 6, 1978, by The Reverend Bernard Guekguezian, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Paramus, N.J.; Bishop Papken Varjabedian, Legate of the Primate of North America, Washington, D.C.; and Reverend Father Sahag Vertanessian of Holy Cross Church, Chevy Chase, Maryland. Interment was in Gilbert, Pennsylvania.

The family suggests that expressions of sympathy may be in the form of contributions to the Armenian Missionary Association of America, 140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey.

### RICHARD OHANESIAN

Richard Ohanesian—1889-1978. Died July 25th at New Britain General Hospital. He was a resident of Newington for the last 22 years, and was a biology teacher in Glastonbury Schools, retiring in 1977. Was a World War II veteran, having served in the 7th Army photo intelligence.

He is survived by his loving wife, Mrs. Louise (Kassarjian) Ohanesian; his loving children, Richard Ohanes-



ian, Roxanne Ohanesian, both of Newington, Connecticut; and three brothers, George, Vaughn and Dr. Jacob; and several nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service was held at the Church of Christ Congregational, Newington. The family wishes that Memorial donations be made to the Armenian Missionary Association of America, 140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, NJ 07652.



### HAIGANOUSH SHARABJIAN

1889 - 1978

Haiganoush Sharabjian was born in 1889 in Kayseri, Turkey. She was subjected to the atrocities of the Turkish Government when she was only seven years old, when her father was massacred because he had attended a church service. As an orphan she attended an American Missionary boarding school. After graduating from high school she emigrated to the United States and became the bride of Hagop Keishian. They returned to their homeland in 1914 to visit their aged mothers and other relatives. And in 1915, as before, came the Turkish massacres, and many of her relatives were killed. Her husband died in 1919 in Talos, and she was left a widow. This courageous woman, somehow, managed to get back to the United States, and since she was a Citizen, she brought back with her, her niece Grace whom the Turks wanted to take away from her mother. Haiganoush raised her as her own child. In 1920 she was married to John Sharabjian by the Rev. Yeretzian, and they were together for 58 years when she passed away. Mr. Sharabjian passed away this past September.

Haiganoush was a Charter Member

of the United Armenian Congregational Church of Hollywood, and was very active, and served as President in the Ladies Aid. She also served in the Armenian group of the Red Cross, and was a supporter of the Armenian Missionary Association of America.

She is survived by her daughters, Grace and Esther; and several grandchildren. (A check for \$1000.00 was donated to be used toward the education of a missionary).

Interment was at Inglewood Park Cemetery, and the Rev. Edward S. Tovmassian officiated at the rites.



### YEPREM ASTIKIAN

1883 - 1978

Mr. Astikian passed away on July 21, 1978. He was born in Ceaseria, Turkey, and graduated cum laude in 1908 from Anatolia College at Marsovan with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He remained at Marsovan as a graduate student, and taught there before emigrating to the U.S. in 1909.

From 1914-1945 he owned and operated hotels in Toledo and Cleveland, Ohio, and was also active in many civic groups, serving as President of the Armenian General Benevolent Union, of which he was a life member. He was also active in the Armenian Democratic League. He organized and served as commander of the Knights of Vartan Chapter in Cleveland. Although a Protestant, Mr. Astikian was instrumental in establishing the Apostolic Church for the Armenian community in Cleveland.

He and his family moved to Los Angeles, California after his retirement in 1945, where he served as Chaplain for the Los Angeles Chapter of the Knights of Vartan.

Mr. Astikian was married to Satenig, daughter of Professor and Mrs. Sarkis Cassabian of Bardizag, Turkey. He is survived by his loving children, Harry Astikian; Mrs. Martin

Mardirosian of Phoenix, Arizona; Mrs. Charles S. Loud, Jr. of Canoga Park, California; Mrs. Edgar Hurst; and Mrs. Nancy West. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Mrs. Gordon Maxwell of Wyoming; Harry Alfred and Rachel Anne Hurst and Marilyn and Carolyn West. His great-grandchildren are Heather, Jennifer and Martin Maxwell. He leaves also a brother, Haroutun Astikian.



### SARKIS KRIKORIAN

1892 - 1978

A beloved member of the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church of Havertown, Pennsylvania, passed away on July 13th. Mr. Krikorian born in Everek, Fenessi, Turkey, was the son of Krikor and Serpouhi Krikorian. He attended the local Evangelical Church School; then St. Paul's College of Tarssus. He migrated to the U.S. in 1912 and learned the photo-engraving trade. He retired in 1973. Louise Bedrossian became his bride in 1927, and they became the parents of Diana Arousiag, Araxie Ruth and Serge Sarkis. He was very devoted to family, church and community. He joined the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church of Havertown in 1917 and served in the capacities of deacon, trustee and Sunday School Teacher. He was a man of deep faith, and during his retirement visited the sick and those who were shut-ins. He served the Vartanantz Asbed lodge as Sbarabed and was Avak Yeretz in the Avak Tahlij. He was awarded a 50-year Masonic Service emblem by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and was also an AGBU member for 50 years. All who knew him loved him as he drew people to him with his keen sense of humor and warm personality. He is survived by his loving wife, Marge, and his three children and nine grandchildren. Memorial services were held on July 15th with the Rev. Edward Tovmassian, Rev. Dicran Kassouny, M.D. and Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji officiating. Rev. David Sarkis Rudd, a grandson of the deceased, read the Scripture lesson.

Queenie Fereshetian

## OBITUARIES

The AMAA Board of Directors extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased through the medium of the AMAA NEWS.

\*Mr. Mihran Dalkranian  
Miami, FL 1977

Mr. Murade Karagozian  
Newton, MA March 24, 1978

Mrs. Nouritz DerSarkisian  
Hauppauge, NY April 24, 1978

\*Mrs. Arshalous Garmirian  
Long Island City, NY May, 1978

Mrs. Edward Gulbenkian  
Larchmont, NY May 6, 1978

\*Mr. F. Springer  
Rochester, NY May 26, 1978

\*Mrs. Haiganoush Sharabjian  
Sherman Oaks, CA June, 1978

\*Mrs. Rose Deovlet  
San Francisco, CA June 9, 1978

Mrs. Agnes Deranian  
Palisade Park, NJ June 27, 1978

\*Mr. Mille Harikian  
Stateline, NV July, 1978

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